

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8641

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID JA EG

SUBJ: JAPANESE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT

REF: STATE 144761

SUMMARY: WORKING LEVEL FONOFF AND OTHER MINISTRIES' OFFICIALS NOT OPTIMISTIC RE PROSPECTS FOR NEW JAPANESE LOAN OF 100 MILLION DOLLARS SOON IN ABSENCE OF DONORS' MEETING. POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE, RECOMMENDED BY GOJ AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT, IS 25 MILLION DOLLAR COMMODITY LOAN IMMEDIATELY, PERHAPS FOLLOWED LATER BY ADDITIONAL 100 MILLION. END SUMMARY.

1. ON JUNE 27 EMBOFF MET WITH WORKING LEVEL FONOFF OFFICIAL PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR QUESTION OF AID TO EGYPT (SEZAKI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, FIRST ECONOMIC COOPERATION DIVISION) TO REVIEW STATUS AND PROSPECTS OF PROPOSED JAPANESE EMERGENCY AID TO EGYPT. SEZAKI SAID THAT IN JUNE 10 CABLE TO GOJ EMBASSY WASHINGTON FONOFF HAD SAID HOLDING OF DONORS' MEETING IS QTE ESSENTIAL CONDITION UNQTE OF NEW JAPANESE LOAN OF 100 MILLION DOLLARS TO EGYPT, AND HAD INSTRUCTED GOJ EMBASSY TO REQUEST USG TO TAKE ADDITIONAL INITIATIVES IN ARRANGING SUCH A MEETING. FOLLOWING YASUKAWA/SISCO/ROBINSON CONVERSATIONS REPORTED REFTEL, SAID SEZAKI, WORKING LEVEL FONOFF REPS ARE CONSUSED AS TO WHAT THEIR NEXT STEP SHOULD BE AND FEAR THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO PERSUADE OTHER MINISTRIES
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TO GO ALONG WITH NEW 100 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN. PRESENT

FEELING WITHIN WORKING LEVELS OF FONOFF AS WELL AS OTHER
MINISTRIES IS THAT IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO GET
INTERMINISTERIAL AGREEMENT TO 100 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN QTE
UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES UNQTE, THAT IS, IN ABSENCE
OF DONORS' MEETING.

2. SEZAKI SAID GOJ AMBASSADOR TO CAIRO (WADA) HAS
RECOMMENDED TO FONOFF THAT GOJ PROCEED WITH QTE IMMEDIATE
UNQTE DISBURSEMENT OF ADDITIONAL 25 MILLION DOLLAR
COMMODITY LOAN, IN LINE WITH ORIGINAL GOJ AID PLANS FOR
THIS JFY. IF IN DUE COURSE 100 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN
COULD BE AGREED TO, ACCORDING TO WADA'S PROPOSAL, IT
WOULD BE OVER AND ABOVE PROPOSED 25 MILLION DOLLAR
COMMODITY LOAN. WADA HAS GONE TO PARIS TO DISCUSS
QUESTION WITH ECONOMIC COOPERATION BUREAU DEPUTY DIRGEN
KIKUCHI, WHO PRESENTLY THERE FOR DAC REVIEW. UPON
KIKUCHI'S RETURN TO JAPAN NEXT WEEK, FONOFF HOPES TO
REACH INTERMINISTERIAL DECISION ON HOW TO PROCEED.
HODGSON

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